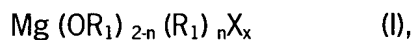


**Amendments to the Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A process for producing a particulate support for an olefin ~~polymerisation~~ polymerization catalyst, wherein a solution of a magnesium compound is contacted with a solution of an element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table (IUPAC) to obtain a solid reaction product, characterized in that the solid reaction product is formed by:

- (i) contacting (a) a solution of a magnesium hydrocarboxy compound with (b) a solution of a halogen-containing compound of an element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table (IUPAC) to form a liquid reaction mixture; and
- (ii) recovering the solidified reaction product from the reaction mixture by separating the solid product from the liquid reaction medium and/or by washing the product to adjust the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table to magnesium in the obtained reaction product material to a value of at least 0.3, ~~preferably of at least 0.4.~~

Claim 2 (Currently amended) [A] The process of claim 1, wherein the magnesium hydrocarboxy compound is of formula (I):



wherein each  $\text{R}_1$  independently represents a  $\text{C}_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group; X is a halogen;  $0 \leq n < 2$  and may or may not be an integer;  $x < 2$  and may or may not be an integer; the sum of  $(2-n)$ ,  $n$ , and  $x$  is 2.

Claim 3 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table to magnesium in the obtained reaction product material is

adjusted to  $0.4 \leq [(\text{halogen-containing compound of an element of Group 13 or 14}) : \text{Mg}] \leq 1.1$ , ~~and preferably to~~  
 ~~$0.6 \leq (\text{halogen-containing compound of an element of Group 13 or 14}) : \text{Mg} \leq 0.99$ .~~

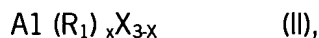
Claim 4 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein said molar ratio is adjusted by washing the obtained reaction product with a wash solution.

Claim 5 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 4, wherein the wash solution is an inert hydrocarbon selected from a linear or branched aliphatic, alicyclic or aromatic C<sub>5-20</sub> hydrocarbon or any mixtures thereof, ~~and, optionally, the washing step is carried out in a temperature between 40 to 80 °C.~~

Claim 6 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein (a) the solution of a magnesium hydrocarbyloxy compound is added to (b) a solution of a halogen-containing compound of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table to obtain the solid reaction product.

Claim 7 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein the halogen-containing compound of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table is a chlorine-containing compound of Group 13 of the Periodic Table.

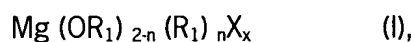
Claim 8 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein the chlorine-containing compound of Group 13 of the Periodic Table is a compound of formula



wherein each  $R_1$  independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group; X is chloride and  $0 \leq x < 3$ .

Claim 9 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to any one of claim 1 to 8 claim 8, wherein the compound of formula (II) is ethylaluminum ethylaluminum dichloride.

Claim 10 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to any one of claims 1 to 9 claim 1, wherein the magnesium hydrocarbyloxy compound is of formula (I):



wherein each  $R_1$  independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group; X is a halogen;  $0 \leq n < 2$  and may or may not be an integer; each X and  $R_1$  are independently as defined in claim 2; and x is 0.

Claim 11 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to any one of claims 1 to 10 claim 2, wherein the solution of the magnesium hydrocarbyloxy compound (I) is a reaction mixture prepared by contacting in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof (a) a magnesium alkyl of formula  $\text{Mg}(\text{R}_1)_2$  (III), wherein each  $R_1$  is independently as defined in claim 2 independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group, with (b) an alcohol of formula  $\text{R}_1\text{OH}$ , wherein  $R_1$  is as defined in claim 2 represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group, preferably a  $C_{3-15}$  cycloalkyl or or branched or unbranched  $C_{3-15}$  alkyl.

Claim 12 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 11, wherein the magnesium alkyl compound (III) is butyloctylmagnesium.

Claim 13 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the alcohol  $\text{R}_1\text{OH}$  is 2-ethyl-1-hexanol.

- Claim 14 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 13~~ claim 12, wherein butyloctylmagnesium in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof is contacted with 2-ethyl-1-hexanol and the obtained solution is added to a solution of ~~ethylaluminium~~ ethylaluminum dichloride in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof to form a solid reaction product.
- Claim 15 (Currently amended) A solid catalyst support for an olefin ~~polymerisation~~ polymerization catalyst obtainable by [a] the method of ~~any one of claims 1 to 14~~ claim 1.
- Claim 16 (Currently amended) A solid catalyst support according to claim 15, wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table (IUPAC) to magnesium in said support is of  $\geq 0.3$ , ~~preferably  $\geq 0.4$~~ .
- Claim 17 (Currently amended) A solid catalyst support for an olefin ~~polymerisation~~ polymerization catalyst comprising a separated and/or washed solid reaction product of (a) a magnesium hydrocarbyloxy compound and (b) a halogen-containing compound of an element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table (IUPAC), wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 to magnesium in said support ~~being of~~ is  $\geq 0.3$ , ~~preferably  $\geq 0.4$ ; and, optionally, of an electron donor.~~
- Claim 18 (Currently amended) A solid catalyst support according to claim 17, which comprises a separated and/or washed solid reaction product of (a) a reaction mixture of a solution of magnesium alkyl of formula  $\text{Mg}(\text{R}_1)_2$  (III), wherein each  $\text{R}_1$  is ~~independently as defined in claim 2~~ independently represents

a C<sub>1-20</sub> hydrocarbyl group, with an alcohol of formula R<sub>1</sub>OH, wherein R<sub>1</sub> is ~~as defined in claim 11~~ independently represents a C<sub>1-20</sub> hydrocarbyl group, in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof; and (b) a solution of formula A1 (R<sub>1</sub>)<sub>x</sub>X<sub>3-x</sub> wherein each R<sub>1</sub> and X and x are ~~as defined in claim 10~~ each R<sub>1</sub> independently represents a C<sub>1-20</sub> hydrocarbyl group; X is a halogen; and x is 0, in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof.

Claim 19 (Currently amended) [A] The solid catalyst support according to ~~any one of claims 17 to 18~~ claim 18, wherein the molar ratio of A1:Mg in said support is  $\geq 0.4$ , ~~preferably~~  $0.6 \leq \text{A1:Mg} \leq 0.99$ .

Claim 20 (Currently amended) [A] The solid support according to claim 18 ~~to 19~~, wherein in the alcohol of formula R<sub>1</sub>OH, R<sub>1</sub> is a C<sub>3-15</sub> cycloalkyl or branched or unbranched C<sub>3-15</sub> alkyl.

Claim 21 (Currently amended) A process for producing a Ziegler-Natta catalyst component for olefin ~~polymerisation~~ polymerization comprising treating, in an inert solvent, [a] the solid catalyst support according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 20~~ claim 15, ~~or prepared according to a method of any one of claims 1-14~~, with a transition metal compound of Group 3 to 10 of the Periodic Table (IUPAC), ~~and, optionally, with an electron donor, and then, optionally, recovering the catalyst component.~~

Claim 22 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 21, wherein the transition metal compound is a tetravalent titanium compound.

Claim 23 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 22, wherein the transition metal compound is titanium tetrachloride (TiCl<sub>4</sub>).

- Claim 24 (Currently amended) [A] The process according to claim 23, wherein  $\text{TiCl}_4$  is used in a molar ratio of 1 – 0.5 mol to one mol of Mg present in the support.
- Claim 25 (Currently amended) [A] The process for ~~(co)polymerising~~ (co)polymerizing an olefin using the catalyst component produced according to ~~any one of claims 21 to 24~~ claim 21.
- Claim 26 (New) The process of claim 1, wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table to magnesium in the obtained reaction product material is adjusted to a value of at least 0.4.
- Claim 27 (New) The process of claim 3, wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table to magnesium in the obtained reaction product material is adjusted to  $0.6 \leq \text{halogen-containing compound of an element of Group 13 or 14:Mg} \leq 0.99$ .
- Claim 28 (New) The process according to claim 26, wherein said molar ratio is adjusted by washing the obtained reaction product with a wash solution.
- Claim 29 (New) The process of claim 28, wherein the wash solution is an inert hydrocarbon selected from a linear or branched aliphatic, alicyclic or aromatic  $\text{C}_{5-20}$  hydrocarbon or any mixtures thereof.
- Claim 30 (New) The process of claim 5, wherein the washing step is carried out in a temperature between 40 to 80 °C.

- Claim 31 (New)                      The process of claim 29, wherein the washing step is carried out in a temperature between 40 to 80 °C.
- Claim 32 (New)                      The process of claim 10, wherein the solution of the magnesium hydrocarbyloxy compound (I) is a reaction mixture prepared by contacting in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof (a) a magnesium alkyl of formula  $Mg(R_1)_2$  (III), wherein each  $R_1$  independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group, with (b) an alcohol of formula  $R_1OH$ , wherein  $R_1$  represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group.
- Claim 33 (New)                      The process of claim 32, wherein the magnesium alkyl compound (III) is butyloctylmagnesium.
- Claim 34 (New)                      The process of claim 12, wherein the alcohol  $R_1OH$  is 2-ethyl-1-hexanol.
- Claim 35 (New)                      The process of claim 32, wherein the alcohol  $R_1OH$  is 2-ethyl-1-hexanol.
- Claim 36 (New)                      The process of claim 33, wherein the alcohol  $R_1OH$  is 2-ethyl-1-hexanol.
- Claim 37 (New)                      The process according to claim 33, wherein butyloctylmagnesium in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof is contacted with 2-ethyl-1-hexanol and the obtained solution is added to a solution of ethylaluminum dichloride in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof to form a solid reaction product.

- Claim 38 (New)                      The process of claim 11, wherein  $R_1$  is a  $C_{3-15}$  cycloalkyl or a branched or unbranched  $C_{3-15}$  alkyl.
- Claim 39 (New)                      The process of claim 32, wherein  $R_1$  is a  $C_{3-15}$  cycloalkyl or a branched or unbranched  $C_{3-15}$  alkyl.
- Claim 40 (New)                      A solid catalyst support for an olefin polymerization catalyst obtainable by the method of claim 26.
- Claim 41 (New)                      The solid catalyst support of claim 40, wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 of the Periodic Table (IUPAC) to magnesium in said support is of  $\geq 0.4$ .
- Claim 42 (New)                      The solid catalyst support of claim 17, wherein the molar ratio of the element of Group 13 or 14 to magnesium in said support is  $\geq 0.4$ .
- Claim 43 (New)                      The solid catalyst support of claim 17, wherein the separated and/or washed solid reaction product further comprises an electron donor.
- Claim 44 (New)                      The solid catalyst support of claim 42, wherein the separated and/or washed solid reaction product further comprises an electron donor.
- Claim 45 (New)                      A solid catalyst support according to claim 42, which comprises a separated and/or washed solid reaction product of (a) a reaction mixture of a solution of magnesium alkyl of formula  $Mg(R_1)_2$  (III), wherein each  $R_1$  independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group, with an alcohol of formula  $R_1OH$ , wherein  $R_1$  independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group, in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any



mixtures thereof; and (b) a solution of formula  $A1(R_1)_xX_{3-x}$  wherein each  $R_1$  independently represents a  $C_{1-20}$  hydrocarbyl group; X is a halogen; and x is 0, in an inert hydrocarbon solvent or any mixtures thereof.

- Claim 46(New) A solid catalyst support of claim 18, wherein the molar ratio of A1:Mg in said support is  $0.6 \leq A1:Mg \leq 0.99$ .
- Claim 47(New) A solid catalyst support of claim 45, wherein the molar ratio of A1:Mg in said support is  $\geq 0.4$ .
- Claim 48(New) A solid catalyst support of claim 45, wherein the molar ratio of A1:Mg in said support is  $0.6 \leq A1:Mg \leq 0.99$ .
- Claim 49(New) The solid support according to claim 19, wherein in the alcohol of formula  $R_1OH$ ,  $R_1$  is a  $C_{3-15}$  cycloalkyl or branched or unbranched  $C_{3-15}$  alkyl.
- Claim 50(New) The solid support according to claim 46, wherein in the alcohol of formula  $R_1OH$ ,  $R_1$  is a  $C_{3-15}$  cycloalkyl or branched or unbranched  $C_{3-15}$  alkyl.
- Claim 51(New) The solid support according to claim 47, wherein in the alcohol of formula  $R_1OH$ ,  $R_1$  is a  $C_{3-15}$  cycloalkyl or branched or unbranched  $C_{3-15}$  alkyl.
- Claim 52(New) The process of claim 21 further comprising treating the solid catalyst support with an electron donor.
- Claim 53(New) The process of claim 52 further comprising recovering the catalyst component.

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|----------------|--|
| Claim 54 (New) | The process according to claim 52, wherein the transition metal compound is a tetravalent titanium compound. |
| Claim 55 (New) | The process according to claim 53, wherein the transition metal compound is a tetravalent titanium compound. |
| Claim 56 (New) | The process for (co)polymerizing an olefin using the catalyst component produced according to claim 52.      |
| Claim 57 (New) | The process for (co)polymerizing an olefin using the catalyst component produced according to claim 53.      |